Message Text

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PAGE 01 BANGKO 14534 230725Z ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-15 NSC-05 PM-05 SP-02 INR-10 CIAE-00 NSAE-00 DODE-00 EB-08 TRSE-00 /058 W ------084812 230727Z /17-L

P 230656Z MAY 78 FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4852 INFO AMEMBASSY MANILA PRIORITY

CONFIDENTIAL BANGKOK 14534

EO 11652: GDS TAGS: ASEAN, TH

SUBJ: US/ASEAN MINISTERIAL - RTG POSITION

REF: MANILA 08216

- 1. THEP THEWAKUN, DG FOR ASEAN AFFAIRS, MFA, CONFIRMS
 THAT THE RTG HAS SIGNALLED THEIR QUOTE PREFERENCE
 UNQUOTE FOR ONE MONTH POSTPONEMENT OF ASEAN EXPERTS
 MEETING AND US-ASEAN DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION EXPERTS
 MEETING SCHEDULED FOR END OF MAY AND EARLY JUNE IN MANILA.
- 2. THEP ATTRIBUTES REASON FOR POSTPONEMENT TO THE NESDB (NATIONAL ECONOMIC SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT BOARD). OFFICIALS OF NESDB WILL BE LEADING THAI DELEGATION COMPOSED OF EXPERTS FROM VARIOUS MINISTRIES TO MANILA DISCUSSIONS. THE NESDB ASKED FOR POSTPONEMENT IN ORDER TO MAKE ADEQUATE PREPARATIONS. THEP BELIEVES RTG AND OTHER ASEAN MEMBERS WILL BE BETTER PREPARED IF PROPOSAL IS ACCEPTED BY ASEAN BUT SEES NO REASON FOR CHANGING AUGUST 3-4 MINISTERIAL DATES DESPITE DELAY IN PRELIMINARY MEETINGS. HE ADDED THAT RTG WOULD ADHERE TO MAJORITY DECISION. WHITEHOUSE

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